



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE Park Truck Trail Maintenance

PROJECT LOCATION Big Basin and Henry Cowell Redwoods State Parks
T10S R2W Sections 8, 9, 16, 17, 21, 22, 25, 26 & 36; T9S
R3W Sections 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 16 & 17; T8S R3 W Sec 33; T9S
R4W Sections 2, 3, 10, 15, 22, 27, 28; T8S R4W Sections 19,
20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 35 MDB&M

COUNTY Santa Cruz

LEAD AGENCY California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is to conduct vegetation reduction along approximately 15 miles of existing roads within Big Basin State Park and Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. Existing roads within the state park system require continued maintenance to allow for safe access. The goal is to provide access for fire suppression to an otherwise roadless areas and facilitate the ability of fire suppression agencies to extinguish fires at the boundaries of predetermined compartments. All work is confined to within 30 feet on each side of roads. Vegetation removed will be piled and burned or chipped on site.

Roads included for treatment are: Pipeline Road, Powder Mill Road and Ridge Fire Road at Henry Cowell; Fall Creek Truck Trail at the Fall Creek Unit of Henry Cowell; Hihn Hammond Road, Pine Mountain Road, East Ridge Road, Rogers Road, China Grade, Gazos Creek Road, Johansen Road, Middle Ridge Road, Chalks Road, Whitehouse Canyon Road, Anderson Landing Road, South Butano Road and Eagle Rock to Scott Creek at Big Basin State Park. These are all rural roads within forested areas.

EXEMPTION STATUS


- ☒ **Categorical Exemption** Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
Class 1 §15301 Maintenance of Existing Facilities
- ☐ **Statutory Exemption (state code section):**
- ☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- ☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- ☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The Class 1 and Class 4 Categorical Exemptions provide for the treatment of flammable vegetation along existing roadways. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. No Santa Cruz manzanita will be removed. All work to occur within Big Basin State Park will occur outside the breeding season for marble murrelets. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

7/12/10
Date